

# MIN

That loving wretch that swears,  
Tis not the bodies marry, but the minds,  
Which he in her angelick finds,  
Would swear as justly, that he hears,  
In that day's rude hoarse *minstrelsy*, the spheres. *Donne*.

I began,  
Wrapt in a pleasing fit of melancholy,  
To meditate my rural *minstrelsy*,  
Till fancy had her fill. *Milton*.

2. A number of musicians.  
Ministring spirits train'd up in feast, and song!  
Such hast thou arm'd the *minstrelsy* of heav'n. *Milton*.

MIN'T. *n. f.* [min'te, Saxon; *menthe*, Fr. *mentha*, Latin.] A plant.  
The *mint* is a verticillate plant with labiated flowers, consisting of one leaf, whose upper-lip is arched, and the under-lip divided into three parts; but both of them are so cut, that the flower seems to be divided into four parts, the two lips scarcely appearing: these flowers are collected into thick whorles in some species, but in others they grow in a spike; each flower having four seeds succeeding it, which are inclosed in the flower-cup: it hath a creeping root, and the whole plant has a strong aromatick scent. *Miller*.

Then rubb'd it o'er with newly-gather'd *mint*,  
A wholesome herb, that breath'd a grateful scent. *Dryden*.

MIN'T. *n. f.* [min'te, Dutch; *mynten*, Fr. *mentha*, Latin.] A plant.  
1. The place where money is coined.  
What is a person's name or face, that receives all his reputation from the *mint*, and would never have been known had there not been medals. *Addison on ancient Medals*.

2. Any place of invention.  
A man in all the world's new fashion planted,  
That hath a *mint* of phrases in his brain. *Shakespeare*.

As the *mint*s of calumny are at work, a great number of curious inventions are issued out, which grow current among the party. *Addison's Freeholder*, No. 7.

To MINT. *v. a.* [from the noun.]  
1. To coin; to stamp money.  
Another law was, to bring in the silver of the realm to the mint, in making all clipped coins of silver not to be current in payments, without giving any remedy of weight; and so to let the mint on work, and to give way to new coins of silver which should be then *minted*. *Bacon's Henry VII*.

2. To invent; to forge.  
Look into the titles whereby they hold these new portions of the crown, and you will find them of such natures as may be easily *minted*. *Bacon's War with Spain*.

MIN'TAGE. *n. f.* [from *mint*.]  
1. That which is coined or stamped.  
Its pleasing poison  
The visage quite transforms of him that drinks,  
And the inglorious likeness of a beast  
Fixes instead, unmoulding reasons *mintage*  
Character'd in the face. *Milton*.

2. The duty paid for coining.  
Sterling ought to be of so pure silver as is called leaf silver, and the *mint* must add other weight, if the silver be not pure. *Camden's Remains*.

MIN'TMAN. *n. f.* [mint and man.] One skilled in coining.  
He that thinketh Spain to be some great over-match for this estate, is no good *mintman*; but takes greatness of kingdoms according to their bulk and currency, and not after their intrinsic value. *Bacon's War with Spain*.

MIN'TMASTER. *n. f.* [mint and master.]  
1. One who presides in coining.  
That which is coined, as *mintmasters* confessed, is alloyed with about a twelfth part of copper. *Boyle*.

2. One who invents.  
The great *mintmasters* of these terms, the schoolmen and metaphysicians, have wherewithal to content him. *Locke*.

MIN'UET. *n. f.* [minuet, French.] A stately regular dance.  
The tender creature could not see his fate,  
With whom she'd danc'd a *minuet* so late. *Stepney*.

John Trot has the assurance to set up for a *minuet* dancer. *Spectator*, No. 308.

MIN'UM. *n. f.*  
1. [With printers.] A small sort of printing letter.  
2. [With musicians.] A note of flow time, two of which make a semibreve, as two crotchets make a minim; two quavers a crotchet, and two semiquavers a quaver. *Bailey*.

Oh, he's the courageous captain of compliments; he fights as you sing prickpongs, keeps time, distance, and proportion; rests his *minim*, one, two, and the third in your bosom. *Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet*.

MINU'TE. *adj.* [minutus, Lat.] Small; little; slender; small in bulk; small in consequence.  
Some *minute* philosophers pretend,  
That with our days our pains and pleasures end. *Denham*.

Such an universal superintendency has the eye and hand of providence over all, even the most *minute* and inconsiderable things. *South's Sermons*.

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Into small parts the wond'rous stone divide,  
Ten thousand of *minute* size express  
The serum propension which the large possels. *Blackmore*.

The serum is attenuated by circulation, so as to pass into the *minute* channels, and become fit nutriment for the body. *Arbutnot on Aliments*.

In all divisions we should consider the larger and more immediate parts of the subject, and not divide it at once into the more *minute* and remote parts. *Watts's Logic*.

MINUTE. *n. f.* [minutum, Latin.]  
1. The sixtieth part of an hour.  
This man so complete,  
Who was enroll'd 'mongst wonders, and when we,  
Almost with list'ning raptur'd, could not find  
His hour of speech a *minute*. *Shakespeare's Henry VIII*.

2. Any small space of time.  
They walk'd about me ev'ry *minute* while;  
And if I did but stir out of my bed,  
Ready they were to shoot me to the heart. *Shakespeare*.

The speed of gods  
Time counts not, though with swiftest *minutes* wing'd.  
*Milton's Par. Lost*, b. x.

Gods! that the world should turn  
On *minutes* and on moments. *Denham's Sophy*.

Experience does every *minute* prove the sad truth of this assertion. *South's Sermons*.

Tell her, that I some certainty may bring;  
I go this *minute* to attend the king. *Dryden's Aurengzeib*.

3. The first draught of any agreement in writing; this is common in the Scottish law: as, have you made a *minute* of that contract?  
To MINUTE. *v. a.* [minuter, French.] To set down in short hints.  
I no sooner heard this critical talk of my works, but I *minuted* what he had said, and resolv'd to enlarge the plan of my speculations. *Spectator*, No. 48.

MINUTE-BOOK. *n. f.* [minute and book.] Book of short hints.  
MINUTE-GLASS. *n. f.* [minute and glass.] Glass of which the hand measures a minute.  
MINUTELY. *adv.* [from *minute*.] To a small point; exactly; to the least part; nicely.  
In this posture of mind it was impossible for him to keep that slow pace, and observe *minutely* that order of ranging all he said, from which results an obvious periphrasis. *Locke*.

Change of night and day,  
And of the seasons ever stealing round,  
Minutely faithful. *Thomson's Summer*, l. 40.

MINUTELY. *adv.* [from *minute*, the substantive.]  
1. Every minute; with very little time intervening.  
What is it but a continued perpetuated voice from heaven, refunding for ever in our ears? As if it were *minutely* proclaimed in thunder from heaven, to give men no rest in their sins, no quiet from Christ's importunity till they arise from so mortiferous a state. *Hannond's Fundamentals*.

2. In the following passage it seems rather to be an adjective, as *hourly* is both the adverb and adjective.  
Now *minutely* revolts upbraid his faith-breach,  
Those he commands, move only in command,  
Nothing in love. *Shakespeare's Macbeth*.

MINUTENESS. *n. f.* [from *minute*.] Smallness; exility; inconsiderableness.  
The animal spirit and insensible particles never fall under our senses by reason of their *minuteness*. *Bentley's Sermons*.

MINUTE-WATCH. *n. f.* [minute and watch.] A watch in which minutes are more distinctly marked than in common watches which reckon by the hour.  
Casting our eyes upon a *minute-watch*, we found that from the beginning of the pumping, about two minutes after the coals had been put in glowing, to the total disappearing of the fire, there had pass'd but three minutes. *Boyle*.

MINX. *n. f.* [contracted, I suppose, from *minnick*.] A young, pert, wanton girl.  
Lewd *minx*!  
Come, go with me apart. *Shakespeare*.

Some torches bore, some links,  
Before the proud virago *minx*. *Hudibras*, p. ii.

She, when but yet a tender *minx*, began  
To hold the door, but now sets up for man. *Dryden*.

MIRACLE. *n. f.* [miracle, Fr. *miraculum*, Latin.]  
1. A wonder; something above human power.  
Nothing almost sees *miracles*. *Shakespeare's King Lear*.

But misery.  
Virtuous and holy, chosen from above,  
To work exceeding *miracles* on earth. *Shakespeare's Henry VI*.

Be not offended, nature's *miracle*. *Shakespeare's Henry VI*.

Thou art allotted to be ta'en by me. *Shakespeare's Henry VI*.

2. [In theology.] An effect above human or natural power, performed in attestation of some truth.  
The *miracles* of our Lord are peculiarly eminent above the lying wonders of demons, in that they were not made out of vain ostentation of power, and to raise unprofitable amazement; but for the real benefit and advantage of men, by feeding

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feeding the hungry, healing all sorts of diseases, ejecting of devils, and reviving the dead. *Bentley's Sermons*.

MIRACULOUS. *adj.* [miraculeux, Fr. from *miracle*.] Done by miracle; produced by miracle; effected by power more than natural.  
Arithmetical progression might easily demonstrate how fast mankind would increase, overpassing as *miraculous*, though indeed natural, that example of the Israelites, who were multiplied in two hundred and fifteen years from seventy unto six hundred thousand able men. *Raleigh's Essays*.

Restore this day, for thy great name,  
Unto his ancient and *miraculous* right. *Herbert*.

Why this strength  
Mirac'ulous yet remaining in those locks?  
His might continues in thee not for naught. *Milton's Ag*.

At the first planting of the Christian religion in the world, God was pleas'd to accompany it with a *miraculous* power. *Tillotson*.

MIRACULOUSLY. *adv.* [from *miraculous*.] By miracle; by power above that of nature.  
It was a singular providence of God, to draw those northern heathen nations down into those Christian parts, where they might receive Christianity, and to mingle nations so remote *miraculously*, to make one blood and kindred of all people, and each to have knowledge of him. *Spenser on Ireland*.

Turnus was to be slain that very day; and Aeneas, wounded as he was, could not have engaged him in single combat, unless his hurt had been *miraculously* healed. *Dryden*.

MIRACULOUSNESS. *n. f.* [from *miraculous*.] The state of being effected by miracle; superiority to natural power.  
MIRADOR. *n. f.* [Spanish, from *mirar*, to look.] A balcony; a gallery whence ladies see shews.  
Mean time your valiant son, who had before  
Gain'd fame, rode round, to ev'ry *mirador*;  
Beneath each lady's stand a stop he made,  
And bowing, took th' applauses which they paid. *Dryden*.

MIRE. *n. f.* [moer, Dutch.] Mud; dirt at the bottom of water.  
He his rider from her lofty steed  
Would have cast down, and trod in dirty *mire*. *Fa. Qu.*

Here's that, which is too weak to be a finner, honest water, which ne'er left man i' th' *mire*. *Shak. Timon of Athens*.

I'm Ralph himself, your trusty squire,  
Wh' has dragg'd your donship out o' th' *mire*. *Hudibras*.

I appeal to any man's reason, whether it be not better that there should be a distinction of land and sea, than that all should be *mire* and water. *More's Antidote against Atheism*.

Now plung'd in *mire*, now by sharp brambles torn.  
*Resonance*.

To MIRE. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To whelm in the mud; to soil with mud.  
Why had I not, with charitable hand,  
Took up a beggar's issue at my gates?  
Who smere'd thus, and *mire'd* with infamy,  
I might have laid no part of it in mine. *Shakespeare*.

MIRE. *n. f.* [myr, Welsh; myra, Saxon; miers, Dutch.] An ant; a pismire.  
MIRINESS. *n. f.* [from *miry*.] Dirtiness; fullness of mire.  
MIRKSOME. *n. f.* [morch, dark, Danish.] In the derivatives of this fet, no regular orthography is observed: it is common to write *murky*, to which the rest ought to conform.] Dark; obscure.  
Through *mirksome* air her ready way she makes. *F. Qu.*

MIRROIR. *n. f.* [miroir, French; mirar, Spanish, to look.]  
1. A looking-glass; any thing which exhibits representations of objects by reflection.  
And in his waters which your *mirror* make,  
Behold your faces as the crystal bright. *Spenser's Epith.*

That pow'r which gave me eyes the world to view,  
To view myself infus'd an inward light,  
Whereby my soul, as by a *mirror* true,  
Of her own form may take a perfect sight. *Davies*.

Less bright the moon,  
But opposite in level'd West was set  
His *mirror*, with full face borrowing her light  
From him. *Milton's Par. Lost*, b. vii.

Mirror of poets, *mirror* of our age,  
Which her whole face beholding on thy stage,  
Pleas'd and displeas'd with her own faults, endures  
A remedy like those whom music cures. *Waller*.

By chance he spy'd a *mirror* while he spoke,  
And gazing there beheld his alter'd look;  
Wond'ring, he saw his features and his hue,  
So much were chang'd, that scarce himself he knew.  
*Dryden's Knight's Tale*.

Late as I rang'd the crystal wilds of air,  
In the clear *mirror* of thy ruling star,  
I saw, alas! some dread event impending.  
It is used for pattern; for that on which the eye ought to be fixed; an exemplar; an archetype.  
The works of nature are no less exact, than if the did both behold and study how to express some absolute shape or *mirror* always present before her. *Hooker*, b. i.

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O goddess, heavenly bright,  
Mirror of grace and majesty divine. *Fairy Queen*, b. i.

How far'st thou, *mirror* of all martial men? *Shakespeare*.

Mirror of ancient faith in early youth. *Dryden*.

MIRROR-STONE. *n. f.* [selenites, Lat.] A kind of transparent stone. *Ainsl.*

MIRTH. *n. f.* [mýrthos, Saxon.] Merriment; jollity; gaiety; laughter.  
To give a kingdom for a *mirth*, to fit,  
And keep the turn of tripping with a slave. *Shakespeare*.

Be large in *mirth*, anon we'll drink a measure  
The table round. *Shakespeare's Macbeth*.

His eye begets occasion for his wit;  
For every object that the one doth catch,  
The other turns to a *mirth*-moving jest. *Shakespeare*.

Most of the appearing *mirth* in the world is not *mirth* but art: the wounded spirit is not seen, but walks under a disguise. *South's Sermons*.

With genial joy to warm the soul,  
Bright Helen mix'd a *mirth*-inspiring bowl. *Pope's Odyssey*.

MIRTHFUL. *adj.* [mirth and full.] Merry; gay; cheerful.  
No simple word,  
That shall be utter'd at our *mirthful* board,  
Shall make us sad next morning. *B. Johnson, Epigr. 101*.

The feast was serv'd; the bowl was crown'd;  
To the king's pleasure went the *mirthful* round. *Prior*.

MIRTHLESS. *adj.* [from *mirth*.] Joyless; cheerless.  
MIRY. *adj.* [from *mire*.]  
1. Deep in mud; muddy.  
Thou should'st have heard how her horse fell, and the under her horse: thou should'st have heard in how *miry* a place, how the was bemoiled. *Shakespeare's Taming of the Shrew*.

All men who lived lazy lives, and died natural deaths, by sickness or by age, went into vast caves under-ground, all dark and *miry*, full of noisome creatures, and there grovel'd in endless stench and misery. *Temple*.

Deep, through a *miry* lane she pick'd her way,  
Above her ankle rose the chalky clay. *Gay's Trivia*.

So have I seen ill-coupled hounds  
Drag different ways in *miry* grounds. *Swift*.

2. Consisting of mire.  
Shall thou and I sit round about some fountain,  
Looking all downwards to behold our checks,  
How they are stain'd like meadows, yet not dry,  
With *miry* slime left on them by a flood? *Shakespeare*.

MIS, an inseparable particle used in composition to mark an ill sense, or depravation of the meaning: as, *chance*, luck; *mischance*, ill luck; *computation*, reckoning; *miscomputation*, false reckoning; *to like*, to be pleased; *to mistake*, to be offended; from *mes* in Teutonick and French, used in the same sense. Of this it is difficult to give all the examples; but those that follow will sufficiently explain it.

MISACCEPTATION. *n. f.* [mis and acceptance.] The act of taking in a wrong sense.  
MISADVENTURE. *n. f.* [mesaventure, Fr. *mis* and *adventure*.]  
1. Mischance; misfortune; ill luck; bad fortune.  
Your looks are pale and wild, and do import  
Some *misadventure*. *Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet*.

When a commander, either upon necessity or *misadventure*, falleth into danger, it much advanceth both his reputation and enterprise, if bravely he behave himself. *Hayward*.

The body consisted, after all the losses and *misadventures*, of no less than six thousand foot. *Clarendon*, b. viii.

Distinction betwixt actions of *misadventure* and of design. *L'Estrange's Fables*.

The trouble of a *misadventure* now and then, that reaches not his innocence or reputation, may not be an ill way to teach him more caution. *Locke on Education*.

2. [In law.] Manslaughter. *Ainsl.*

MISADVENTURED. *adj.* [from *misadventure*.] Unfortunate.  
From forth the fatal loins of these two foes,  
A pair of star-cross'd lovers take their life;  
Whole *misadventur'd* piteous overthrows  
Do with their death bury their parents' strife. *Shakespeare*.

MISADVISED. *adj.* [mis and advised.] Ill directed.  
MISAIMED. *adj.* [mis and aim.] Not aimed rightly.  
The idle stroke enforcing furious way,  
Missing the mark of his *misaimed* fight,  
Did fall to ground. *Fairy Queen*, b. i.

MISANTHROPE. *n. f.* [misanthrope, French; *μισανθρωπος*.]  
MISANTHROPOS. *n. f.* [misanthrope, French; *μισανθρωπος*.]  
I am *misanthropos*, and hate mankind. *Shakespeare*.

Alas, poor dean! his only scope  
Was to be held a *misanthrope*;  
This into gen'ral odium drew him. *Swift's Miscel.*

MISANTHROPY. *n. f.* [misanthropie, Fr. from *misanthrope*.]  
Hatred of mankind.  
MISAPPLICATION. *n. f.* [mis and application.] Application to a wrong purpose.  
The indistinction of many in the community of name, or the *misapplication* of the act of one unto another, hath made some doubt thereof. *Brown's Vulgar Errors*, b. v.